GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TRIBAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2904
ANSWERED ON:20.03.2017
Transferred/Mortgaged
Chaudhury Shri Jitendra;Lekhi Smt. Meenakashi

Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the literacy rate amongst tribals is very low and lack of literacy amongst tribal people has been identified as a major development problem;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto;

(c) whether it is a fact that a good portion of the land in tribal areas has been legally transferred/mortgaged to non-tribals;

(d) if so, the details thereof along with the steps taken by the Government to help the tribals regain their land;

(e) whether various schemes/programmes being implemented by the Government have not significantly helped the tribals in raising their economic status; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto along with the other steps taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS
(SHRI JASWANTSINH BHABHOR)

(a)& (b): Yes, Madam. As per Census 2011, there is a gap of about 14 percentage points in literacy rate of Scheduled Tribes (STs) as compared to all population.State / UT-wise literacy rates of all population and STs is given at Annexure1.

For bridging the gap in literacy rate and to improve education leveland facilities for Scheduled Tribes, initiatives and schemes of Government of India are given at Annexure 2.

(c) & (d): Land and its management fall under the exclusive legislative and administrative jurisdiction of States as provided under the Constitution of India (Seventh Schedule − List II (State List) − Entry No. (18). Therefore, State wise details are not maintained centrally.
(e) & (f): Various schemes/ programmes being implemented by the Government have significantly helped the tribals in raising their economic status. Details of schemes / programmes implemented byMinistry of Tribal Affairs in this regard are given at Annexure 3.

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Annexure 1 referred to part (a) & (b) of Lok Sabha Un-starred Question No. 2904 for 20.3.2017

Literacy Rates of All Population and Scheduled Tribes: Census 2011

Sl. No	State / UT	All	Scheduled Tribes
	INDIA	73.0	59.0
1	Jammu & Kashmir	67.2	50.6
2	Himachal Pradesh	82.8	73.6
3	Uttarakhand	78.8	73.9
4	Rajasthan	66.1	52.8
5	Uttar Pradesh	67.7	55.7
6	Bihar	61.8	51.1
7	Sikkim	81.4	79.7
8	Arunachal Pradesh	65.4	64.6
9	Nagaland	79.6	80.0
10	Manipur	76.9	72.6
11	Mizoram	91.3	91.5
12	Tripura	87.2	79.1
13	Meghalaya	74.4	74.5
14	Assam	72.2	72.1
15	West Bengal	76.3	57.9
16	Jharkhand	66.4	57.1
17	Odisha	72.9	52.2
18	Chhattisgarh	70.3	59.1

19 Madhya Pradesh 69.3 50.6
20 Gujarat 78.0 62.5
21 Daman & Diu 87.1 78.8
22 Dadra & Nagar Haveli 76.2 61.9
23 Maharashtra 82.3 65.7
24 Telangana 66.5 49.5
25 Andhra Pradesh 67.4 48.8
26 Karnataka 75.4 62.1
27 Goa 88.7 79.1
28 Lakshadweep 91.8 91.7
29 Kerala 94.0 75.8
30 Tamil Nadu 80.1 54.3
31 Andaman & Nicobar Islands 86.6 75.6
Note: No Notified Scheduled Tribes in Punjab, Chandigarh, Haryana, NCT of Delhi and Puducherry as in 2011.

Annexure 2 referred to part (a) & (b) of Lok Sabha Un-starred Question No. 2904 for 20.3.2017

I. Initiatives and Schemes of Ministry of Tribal Affairs
(i) Scheme of Girls & Boys Hostels for STs: Under the scheme, Central assistance is given to States / UTs / Universities for construction of new hostel buildings and / or extension of existing hostels. State Governments are eligible for 100% central share for construction of all Girls' hostel and also for construction of Boys' hostel in naxal affected areas. The funding pattern for other Boys' Hostel to State Governments is on 50:50 basis.

(ii) Scheme of Ashram Schools in Tribal Areas: The objective of the scheme is to provide residential schools for STs to increase the literacy rate among the tribal students and to bring them at par with other population of the country. Under the scheme, State Governments are eligible for 100% central share for construction of all Girls' Ashram Schools and also for construction of Boys' Ashram Schools in naxal affected areas. The funding pattern for the other Boys' Ashram Schools is on 50:50 basis.

(iii) Scheme for Strengthening Education among ST Girls in Low Literacy Districts: The scheme aims to bridge the gap in literacy levels between the general female population and tribal women, through facilitating 100% enrolment of tribal girls in the identified Districts or Blocks, more particularly in naxal affected areas and in areas inhabited by Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs), and reducing drop-outs at the elementary level by creating the required ambience for education. Improvement of the literacy rate of tribal girls is essential to enable them to participate effectively in and benefit from, socio-economic development.

(iv) Ministry releases funds under Article 275(1) of the Constitution for setting up of Eklavya Model Residential Schools (EMRSs). The objective of setting up these schools is to provide quality education to tribal students from Class VI to Class XII. This may eventually improve the academic performance and pursuit for higher education for them and would lead to higher employability and sustainable income.

(v) In addition to above, to maximize retention of ST students within various stages of school education and promoting higher learning, monetary incentives are provided by Ministry of Tribal Affairs in the form of scholarships such as Pre Matric Scholarship, Post Matric Scholarship, National Overseas Scholarship, Scholarship for Top Class Education and National Fellowship for ST students.
(vi) As per Ministry of Tribal Affairs' Guidelines for Special Central Assistance to Tribal Sub-Plan (SCA to TSP) and grants under Article 275(1) of the Constitution, in intra-State sectoral activities prioritization and allocation, 40% to 50% of funds are to be allocated for education.
(vii) Ministry of Tribal Affairs has issued advisories to States for a series of measures to address issues of dropout, and for facilitating education of tribal children including development of Bilingual Primers containing text both in regional and tribal language but in local official script;school vacation to be in synchronization with major tribal festivals;residential schools (200-300 students capacity) in block headquarters for quality education and physical safety; promotion of kitchen garden and sports;school management to engage teachers to overcome shortage;100% physical enrolment of children, etc.

II. Initiatives and Schemes of Ministry of Human Resource Development include the following:
(i) The Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) provides for free and compulsory elementary education to all children in the age group of 6 to 14 years including ST children. 109 special focus districts have been identified on the basis of the indicators like out of school children, high gender gap, low retention rate and infrastructure gap as well concentration of Scheduled Tribe population.
(ii) The National Council for Education Research and Training (NCERT) in the National Curriculum Framework, 2005 (NCF) makes it clear that language and culture are important to all children''s learning including Scheduled Tribes. SSA aims to develop context specific interventions.
(iii) Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalayas (KGBVs) scheme provides for residential schools for girls at upper primary level; a minimum of 75% seats are for minority, SC, ST and OBC girls. KGBVs cover 69% ST girls in ST Special Focus Districts.
(iv) SSA also supports provisions for textbooks to all children in Government / local body and Government aided schools andtwo sets of uniform to all girls, Scheduled Caste (SC), Scheduled Tribe (ST) children and Below Poverty Line (BPL) children, wherever State Governments have incorporated provision of school uniforms as a child entitlement in their State RTE Rules.

(v) The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009 under Section 29 states that wherever practicable children should be taught in their mother tongue. In the last few years several States have taken initiatives to bridge children from tribal groups speaking a different language at home to transition to school language.

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Annexure 3referred to part (e) & (f) of Lok Sabha Un-starred Question No. 2904 for 20.3.2017

Details of schemes / programmes implemented by Ministry of Tribal Affairs

(i) Block grants under Article 275(1) of the Constitution of India are given to 27 State Governments for tribal welfare in the areas like education, health, agriculture, horticulture, animal husbandry, fisheries, dairy & others in primary sector, other income generating schemes to augment tribal household economy and administrative structure / institutional framework & research studies. The implementation is done by the State Governments.

(ii) Special Central Assistance (SCA) to Tribal Sub-Plan (TSP) is 100% grant from Government of India to 23 States. SCA to TSP is an additive to State Plan funds and efforts for Tribal Development.

Objectives of SCA to TSP are:

â€¢ Human resource development by enhancing their access to education and health services.

â€¢ Enhanced quality of life by providing basic amenities in tribal areas / localities including housing (mostly to be covered under Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana(PMAY) / State Schemes).

â€¢ Substantial reduction in poverty and unemployment, creation of productive assets and income generating opportunities.

â€¢ Enhanced capacity to avail opportunities, gain rights and entitlements and improved facilities at par with other areas, and

â€¢ Protection against exploitation and oppression.

(iii) The objective of Scheme "Institutional Support for Development and Marketing of Tribal Products / Produce" is to create institutions for the Scheduled Tribes to support marketing and development of activities they depend on for their livelihood. These are sought to be achieved by specific measures like (a) market intervention, (b) training and skill up-gradation of tribal Artisans, Craftsmen, MFP gatherers, etc., (c) Research &Development / Intellectual Property Rights activity, and (d) Supply chain infrastructure development.

(iv) The scheme, namely, "Mechanism for Marketing of Minor Forest Produce (MFP) through Minimum Support Price (MSP) and Development of value chain for MFP" provides Social Safety for MFP gatherers who are primarily Scheduled Tribes. The scheme seeks to establish a system to ensure fair monetary returns to MFP gatherers for their efforts in collection, primary processing, storage, packaging, transportation, etc., of the designated minor forest produce items available to them.

(v) The Scheme, titled "Support to National / State Scheduled Tribes Finance and Development Corporations" has also significantly helped the tribals in raising their economic and social status by improvement in their food habits, education, health care, self-reliance, etc.

(vi) Scheme of Grant-in-aid to voluntary organizations working for the welfare of Scheduled Tribeswas launched in 1953-54 and was last revised w.e.f. 1st April 2008.The prime objective of the scheme is to enhance the reach of welfare schemes of Government and fill the gaps in service deficient tribal areas, in the sectors such as education, health, drinking water, agro-horticultural productivity, social security net etc. through the efforts of voluntary organizations, and to provide favourable environment for socio-economic upliftment and overall development of the Scheduled Tribes (STs). Any other innovative activity having direct positive impact on the socio-economic development or livelihood generation of STs may also be considered through voluntary efforts. The scheme is Central Sector Scheme. The grants are provided to the non-governmental organizations on application, in a prescribed format, duly recommended by the multi-disciplinary State Level Committee of the concerned State Government/UT Administration. Funds are generally provided to the extent of 90% by the Government. The voluntary organization is expected to bear the remaining 10% balance from its own resources.

(vii) Vocational Training in Tribal Areas: The main aim of the Scheme is to develop the skills of the ST youth for a variety of jobs as well as self-employment and to improve their socio-economic condition by enhancing their income. The scheme covers all the State and Union Territories. It is not an area-specific scheme, the condition being that free vocational training facilities are extended only to tribal youth. 100% grants under the scheme are provided to the State, Union Territories and other Associations implementing the Scheme. Each Vocational Training Centre (VTC) under the Scheme may cater to 5 vocational courses in traditional skills depending upon the employment potential of the area. Keeping in view the limited potential of even skilled persons in interior areas, each ST boy/girl is trained in two trades of his/her choice, the course in each trade being for duration of three months. Each trainee is to be attached at the end of six months to a master craftsman in a semi-urban/urban area for a period of six months, to learn his/her skills by practical experience. The scheme has been revised with effect from 1.4.2009 to provide enhanced financial norms and to ensure linkages of vocational courses with recognized certificate/diploma through affiliation/accreditation of courses and institutions under Modular Employable Skills and Craftsman Training Scheme by National Council of Vocational Training of Ministry of Labour and Employment.

(viii) Development of Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs): Since PVTGs are the most vulnerable tribal community, it becomes necessary to allocate adequate funds from Central Sector/ Centrally Sponsored and State Plan schemes for the socio-economic development of PVTGs. In 1998-99, a separate 100% Central Sector Scheme for exclusive development of PVTGs was started, and the scheme was revised w.e.f. 1st April, 2015. The scheme covers 75 identified Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups among Scheduled Tribes in 18 States/ UT of Andaman & Nicobar Islands. The scheme is flexible as it enables the States to focus on areas that they consider is relevant to PVTGs and their socio-cultural environment. Activities under it include housing, land distribution, land development, agricultural development, animal husbandry, construction of link roads, installation of non-conventional sources of energy for lighting purpose, social security including JanshreeBeema Yojana or any other innovative activity meant for the comprehensive socio-economic development of PVTGs. Most of the State Governments and the UT of A&N Islands have formulated a "Conversation-cum-Development (CCD) Plan" for the Twelfth Plan period keeping habitat/hamlet development approach in view

and in the format prescribed by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs. The CCD Plans indicate the annual provisions for each financial year and also the agency involved in implementation of that activity. The State Government/UT Administration have been asked to ensure proportionate flow of financial resource for all PVTGs found in their State and the activities to be taken with a proper mix of interventions through the State/UT of A&N Islands. The funds are released to States/UT in accordance with the annual programme proposed for a particular financial year in the CCD Plan.

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